

Retention of LV/PH License Plates

Retention of Legion of Valor/Purple Heart License Plates

Effective January 1, 2011, new legislation allows family members of Legion of Valor (LV) or Purple Heart (PH) recipients to keep **one** LV/PH license plate as a family heirloom upon the death of the LV/PH plate owner and/or surviving spouse, if applicable. For this purpose, a family member is limited to the following: parent, step-parent, child, step-child, grandparent, step-grandparent, sibling, and step-sibling.

Procedures

The LV/PH plates must be removed from the vehicle and one plate surrendered to the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) within 60 days of the death of the plate owner and/or surviving spouse or at the time of renewal, whichever occurs first. When a customer wants to retain **one** LV/PH license plate as a family heirloom, instruct the family member to:

- Complete a Statement of Facts (REG 256) stating his/her relationship to the Legion of Valor or Purple Heart plate owner and/or surviving spouse. He/she must state that the plate will not be placed on a vehicle and will be kept as a family heirloom.
- Surrender the second plate. If the second plate is missing, the family member must indicate that on the REG 256.
- Submit the REG 256 and surrendered the LV/PH license plate to DMV.

The vehicle will have no plates; therefore, follow normal sub-plate procedures upon retail sale.

Background

Prior to January 1, 2011, family members of Legion of Valor or Purple Heart plate owners were not allowed to retain the plates as a family heirloom.

Reference

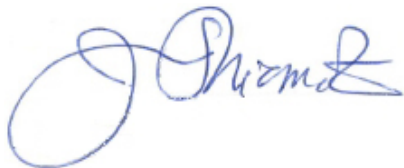
Vehicle Code §§5101.4 and 5101.8

Distribution

Notification that this memo is available online, at **www.dmv.ca.gov** under Publications was made via California DMVs Automated E-mail Alert System in **November 2010**.

Contact

Call the DMV Customer Communications Section, at (916) 657-6560 for further clarification of this memo. Upon request, this document can be produced in Braille or large print.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "J. Shiimoto". The signature is stylized with a large loop at the beginning and a cursive script for the rest of the name.

JEAN SHIOMOTO, Deputy Director
Communication Programs Division